AQUINO | DE LOS REYES | ESTRADA | GORDON | MADRIGAL | TEODORO | VILLANUEVA | VILLAR



And then there were 8

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Wednesday, December 16, 2009 ★★ 18 sections / Vol. 25 / No. 8 P18

Noynoy still No. 1 but Manny, Gibo ratings up

THE RATINGS OF FORMER DEFENSE Secretary Gilbert Teodoro and Sen. Manny Villar are up in the latest Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey on presidential candidates.

But Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III is still the leading choice of Filipinos to succeed President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The nationwide survey, conducted from Nov. 4 to 8, showed Aquino topping the list of three leaders vying to replace Ms Arroyo, with 38 percent of respondents choosing him.

Aquino was followed by Villar and Sen. Francis Escudero with 45 percent and 27 percent, respectively.

Compared with the September survey, the number of those who mentioned

NOYNOY/A11

Dark Christmas for fleeing Mayon folk

By Ephraim Aguilar
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LEGAZPI CITY—ALBAY OFFICIALS HAVE BEGUN moving thousands of villagers out of harm's way near Mayon Volcano after it oozed lava and shot plumes of ash late Monday.

Officials said the villagers would probably spend a bleak Christmas in an evacuation center.

Government volcanologists raised the alert level on the cone-shaped, 2,460-meter volcano overnight to two steps below eruption after ash explosions and dark orange lava fragments glowing in the dark trickled down the mountain slope.

Nearly 50,000 people live in the "hazard areas" within an eight-kilometer radius around Mayon, and authorities were

DARK/A11

Comelec lets Erap run, drops Perlas

By Kristine L. Alave
and Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

EIGHT, 8 AND 158.

These are the numbers of certificates of candidacy (CoCs) for president, vice president and senator, respectively, that the Commission on Elections (Comelec) has initially approved for the national elections in May.

These figures were trimmed from the 99 presidential aspirants, 20 vice presidential hopefuls and 158 senatorial wannabes who filed CoCs from Nov. 20 to Dec. 1.

AND THEN/A14



WHO'S AFRAID OF MAYON? Lava flows from the crater of the 2,460-meter high Mayon Volcano in Albay early Tuesday. The government ordered the evacuation of 9,000 families after Mayon showed increased activity on Monday, shooting plumes of ash into the air, fiery lava fragments trickling down its slopes and grumbling sounds becoming louder.

Bishop Soc: Am ashamed of Edsa II beneficiary

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

"I'M ASHAMED, I'M ASHAMED THAT those who stood up on the holy ground of Edsa could compromise with evil and walk with criminals," Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Socrates "Soc" Villegas said in his homily at one of three special Masses held yesterday at the Edsa Shrine to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Edsa Shrine dedicated to Edsa I or the People Power revolution that ousted the dictator Ferdi-

SHAME/A8

GMA not sorry for martial law; SC move awaited

By Christian V. Esguerra
and Norman Bordadora

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO yesterday hit back at critics assailing her imposition of martial law in Maguindanao, saying she was offering "no apologies" for defending the nation's "moral and legal core."

It was the first time Ms Arroyo spoke in public about martial law in the province where 57 people were slaughtered on Nov. 23. The Ampatuans, her long-time allies, are believed to have masterminded the worst election-related violence in the country.

"The results vindicate the choice we made. I make no apologies for acting where others fear to tread," she said.

"It's time for action, not just tough talk," the President said in a fiery speech delivered before Quezon City public school teachers. "Our critics dragged their feet and took their time grandstanding when the situation demanded decisive action, yet we must act quickly to secure the peace and ensure justice."

With the joint session of Congress adjourning on Monday night without taking a stand, the public is looking to the Supreme Court to rule on the constitutionality of Presidential Proclamation No. 1959.

The proclamation, issued on Dec. 4, imposed martial law and suspended the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in Maguindanao in response to a purported looming rebellion by the

GMA NOT/A8

Arms dealer: I thought I was on the side of the good guys

By Arlyn dela Cruz
Correspondent at Large

YOU'VE PROBABLY SEEN HIM ON TV: he who often gets to display his patriotism as the Philippine flag-bearer among the supporters and high-rollers who swarm around boxing star Manny Pacquiao during his megabuck fights.

But lately, Cristiano "Cris" Aquino claims he's absorbing stinging jabs from his own conscience. Joining the nation in expressing shock over the Nov. 23 Maguindanao massacre, the businessman says he feels "guilty" about the mass murders.

Aquino is an arms dealer—government-accredited until November 2008—who helped build the massive arsenal of the Ampatuan clan, whose members are accused of masterminding the election-related carnage that left 57 people dead, including at least 30 media workers.

The trader recalled selling to the Ampatuans a number of US-made Bushmaster assault rifles. At least one Bushmaster 5.56 mm automatic turned up among the unearthed firearms dug up by soldiers in different sites in Maguindanao in the wake of the massacre.

The unearthed stockpile was so huge that the US Department of Homeland Security reportedly asked that it be "enlightened" by Malacañang about the final end use assurances that the arms might have been used for terror-

ARMS DEALER/A11

QC judge: What is glory without family

By Julie M. Aurelio
and Inquirer Mindanao

TOLD THAT HE WOULD BE HANDLING a landmark case, the judge said: "What is glory without a family."

Thus did a Quezon City judge yesterday refuse to try Andal Ampatuan Jr., the alleged brains behind the massacre of 57 people, citing security concerns and declaring that his family came first.

Judge Luisito Cortez of Regional Trial Court Branch 84 won a special raffle to handle the trial of Ampatuan, who

QC JUDGE/A11



Marriage is good for you, just don't end it, says study

WELLINGTON—MARRIAGE REALLY IS good for you as it reduces the risks of depression and anxiety, according to a recent international study.

But say goodbye to marriage and it's hello, therapy.

A study of nearly 34,500 people in 15 countries found married people are less

MARRIAGE/A19

SC extends voter's listup until Jan. 9

By Norman Bordadora,
Kristine L. Alave
and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE SUPREME COURT YESTERDAY upheld a petition by a youth party-list group and directed the Commission on Elections (Comelec) to extend voter registration up to Jan. 9.

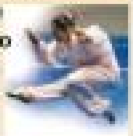
Comelec Chair Jose Melo said the commission would carry out the court's directive, but expressed concern that it could hamper preparations for the country's first nationwide computerized elections in May.

In the House of Representatives, Speaker Prospero Nograles said lawmakers worried over delays in the Comelec timetable were looking at the possibility of conducting a "hybrid" poll automation, combining manual counting and electronic transmission of results.

In a nine-page unanimous decision, the Supreme Court nullified a Comelec resolution that had set the deadline for registration on Oct. 31. The exercise

SUPREME/A11

WHAT'S INSIDE



WEATHER FORECAST

Second FrontPage



Disarming Maguindanao to take a year

IT COULD TAKE UP TO A YEAR FOR THE AUTHORITIES to completely dismantle the armed groups in Maguindanao, which according to police officials include not only the Ampatuans' private army but that of their rival, the Mangudadatus.

No legal basis for CVOs

Got off on wrong foot

Palace asks for leniency

2 survivors of past massacres to surface

SMC unit wins hydro power bid





GMA bound for summit in Copenhagen

By Christian V. Esguerra

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO IS SET to leave today for Copenhagen to attend the a global summit on climate change.

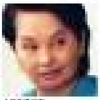
Ms Arroyo will "push the Philippines' call for a deeper cut in the greenhouse gas emissions of developed economies" during the 15th Conference of Parties (COP15) to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, according to Malacañang.

Also on her agenda will be the call for a "long-term global cooperative action to address the alarming effects of global warming and climate change," the Palace said.

Citing a report of the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa), Malacañang said there was an average increase of 0.61 degrees Celsius in the country from 1951 to 2006.

The Palace said the findings were consistent with those of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Ms Arroyo is scheduled to return to Manila on Dec. 19.



ARROYO

RP proposal to cut carbon emissions gains ground

By Michael Lim Ubac

[illegible]

Survival position

[illegible]

Scientific basis

[illegible]

Asean nod

[illegible]



CHRISTMAS SEASON IS HERE

9 days of 'Simbang Gabi' starts

By Dona Pazzibugan

[illegible]

Corrections

[illegible]

THE DAILY GOSPEL

[illegible]

Satur, Bongbong on the same team, but...

By Leila B. Salaverria



OCAMPO



MARCOS

THEIR BEING ON the same senatorial slate does not mean they are friends now.

Militant lawmakers Satur Ocampo and Liza Maza yesterday said their coalition of left-leaning groups, Makabayan, will not support the candidacy of Ilocos Norte Rep. Ferdinand "Bongbong" R. Marcos even though they are fellow guest candidates on the Nacionalista Party senatorial lineup.

Ocampo said Makabayan's members decided not to back Marcos because of his continuing stand that his family did nothing wrong during the 20-year iron-fisted rule of his father and namesake, the late President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

The elder Marcos declared martial law throughout the country in 1972. From the time he first took office in 1965 up to the time he was ousted in a bloodless revolution in 1986, the Marcos family held sway over the country, treating it like their private preserve.

Tortured

Ocampo was imprisoned and tortured by martial law forces, his ordeal ending when he managed to escape. Many other militants were not as lucky, ending up dead or missing to this day.

Ocampo and Maza, another activist, agreed to join the NP slate and support the party's standard-bearer, Sen. Manuel Villar, and his running mate, Sen. Loren Legarda, after the NP concluded its alliance with the Makabayan, the party of the young Marcos that was founded by his father.

Makabayan, which is made up of eight militant groups, would also be backing the NP's two top bets.

"We respect and uphold the expressed will of our mass constituents not to support Bongbong Marcos' senatorial bid because he echoes his mother's repeated claim that former President Marcos did nothing wrong in his dictatorial rule," Ocampo said in a statement.

He said the Marcoses continued to block the delivery of justice and indemnification for their suffering of the victims of martial law, as well as put obstacles to the recovery of the ill-gotten wealth the family allegedly amassed during the years they were in power.

Ocampo and Maza said would be talking to the other NP senatorial bets, except for Marcos, in hope agreements on common causes.

Common platform

Ocampo said he also expected the NP to work to ensure that the common platform they had agreed on would be implemented after the elections. These include compensation for the victims of human rights violations during martial law.

"We wish to emphasize that the key basis of Makabayan's mutual adoption agreement with the Villar-Legarda tandem is the accord to carry specific reforms in our platform during the campaign and to implement them after victory," he said.

"One important aspect of the platform we clinched with Senator Villar and the Nacionalista Party is the commitment to immediately give justice and indemnification to martial law victims and the full recovery of [the Marcos] ill-gotten wealth according to law," he added.

Open letter to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo:

BAN AERIAL SPRAYING OF PESTICIDES
STOP CORPORATE GREED
END THE POISON RAIN



Children on their way to school are hit by pesticide coming from aerial spray planes. This is a common occurrence in many villages in Mindanao.

We unite with the rural poor communities in Mindanao and the Mamamayan Ayaw sa Aerial Spraying (MAAS) from Davao City, Davao del Sur, Davao del Norte, and Compostela Valley in calling for an end to aerial spraying of agrochemicals in banana plantations.

Aerial spraying or the use of small planes to drop agrochemicals is a shameful and blatant disregard for the people's right to health, environment and livelihoods. In aerial spraying, people do not have a choice. People's personal boundaries are violated by the chemical trespass. The most adversely affected are the rural poor, the small farmers who live within and around banana plantations.

The 30-year practice of chemical trespassing has resulted in untold hardships because of the failure of the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority and other government regulatory agencies to do their job despite repeated complaints from the affected communities.

Now, the Department of Health (DOH) has finally spoken. After extensive study of Philippine and international data, DOH has declared aerial spraying a public health hazard that must be immediately stopped. The World Health Organization (WHO) supports the DOH position of good public health practice to protect populations from unnecessary exposure to harmful chemicals.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the other two government agencies involved in the issue, concur with the DOH position. DA has even drafted an order banning aerial spraying.

Excerpt of letter to President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo appealing to ban aerial spraying by Cardinal Gaudencio Rosales, Bishops Antonio Tobias, Honesto Ongtioco, Bernardino Cortez, Broderick Pabillo & Deogracias Iñiguez hand delivered, 9 November 2009

"We are one with all affected people in Mindanao in working for their deliverance from this immoral practice of aerial spraying that infringes upon human health and dignity."

"We cannot allow their suffering to go on any longer for anything that offends people, especially the least of our brothers and sisters, is an offense to God."

"It will surely be remembered by the next generations as your (PGMA) deep expression of motherly care for them because you have protected them from dangers of incurable diseases and early death. Let us remember that we are duty bound as Christians to value life more than economic gains."

We deplore the stance of the billion-dollar export banana industry led by the Pilipino Banana Growers and Exporters Association (PBGEA) which continues to deny the truth and to resist the legitimate clamor to stop aerial spraying. PBGEA's claim that banning aerial spraying would mean the death of the banana industry is belied by: (a) The findings of the DA that there are viable alternatives to aerial spraying in protecting agricultural plants without the harm from widespread pesticide drift inherent in aerial spraying, such as shifting to organic farming in the long-term and using manual and boom spraying in the short and medium term. (b) The continued operations and profitability of banana plantations in areas where aerial spraying has been banned, such as in the provinces of Bukidnon and Northern Cotabato.

Economic development could never be pursued at the expense of human rights and lives. Even worse is when corporate greed asks to take precedence over public health in the guise of protecting the livelihood of those dependent on the industry. Given the international price for bananas, they have more than enough profits to share with others.

Madam President, your three main government agencies have already spoken, yet aerial spraying continues. It is time to heed the voices of the poorest among your people. It is time to remind the banana industry that it is their corporate responsibility to abide by the findings and recommendations of the DOH. Please issue, or cause to be issued, the order banning aerial spraying, now.

Ending poison rain is your historic legacy to the people of Mindanao and the entire nation. And for the MAAS farmers and the directly affected communities in particular, a worthy Christmas gift of justice from their President.

Signed:

Coalitions:
Eco Waste Coalition; Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC); Green Convergence for Safe Food, Healthy Environment and Sustainable Economy (Green Convergence); Go Organic Mindanao (GOM); World Environment Day Philippines (WED-Philippines); Ang Katipunan ng mga Samahang Mahalika; Movement for the Advancement of Sustainable Agriculture-Mindanao (MASA-Mindanao); Watershed Management Coordinating Council (WMCC)

Political Parties/Institutes:
Akbayan Citizens Action Party; Partido Kalikasan

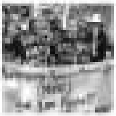
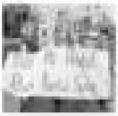
NGOs:
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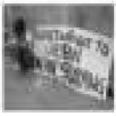
POs:
[illegible]

School Based:
[illegible]

Church Based:
[illegible]

Personalities/Individuals:
[illegible]

RP sees favorable ruling on $27-M Marcos 'loot'

Gibo: Let's end dependence on warlords







GMA not sorry for martial law; SC move awaited

Substantial results

Oral arguments

No more controversy

CHR: No martial law abuses in Maguindanao

By Ryan D. Rosauro
Inquirer Mindanao

Evacuees

Ghost village

Live ammo

Bishop Soc: I'm ashamed of Edsa II beneficiary



'Tapos ka na'

Edsa I spirit betrayed

Unfinished mission

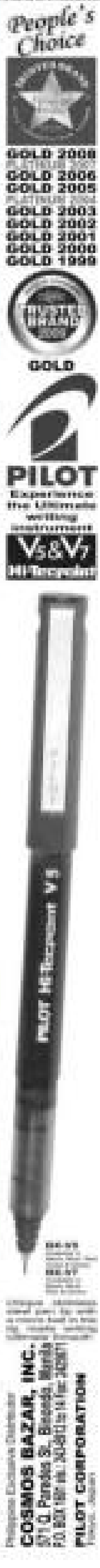
House delays budget OK

No time

Pork barrel negotiations

Tree lighting kicks off Yule season for Meralco center

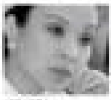


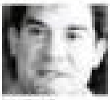



BINAY


CHIPECO


FERNANDO


LEGARDA


MANZANO


ROXAS


SONZA


YASAY

And then there were eight; Perlas to appeal


PERLAS Caught by surprise

List subject to change

Perlas to appeal

Complaint against Estrada

Senatorial candidates

Noynoy still No. 1 but Manny, Gibo ratings up in SWS poll

Too early

Solid base

A better gauge

Supreme Court extends voter's registration until Jan. 9


THE ELIGIBLES Comelec Chair Jose Melo (center) announces the initial list of candidates who passed the poll body's screening in Intramuros, Manila, on Tuesday.

4M disenfranchised

Hybrid automation option

Machines' delivery delayed

Triumph, says Bro. Eddie

Dark Christmas for fleeing Mayon folk



NATURE'S FIREWORKS
Mayon Volcano spews ash into the air on Tuesday.

20,000 evacuated

Worsening state

Early preparations

10 families in 1 classroom

Most violent eruption

Kidnap raps filed vs Lumad leader

'President's prerogative'



Basilan tipster gets reward

INQUIRER

OPINION

Gutted Charter

EDITORIAL



The two sides of political dynasties

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Abolish the Comelec

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Beyond the Maguindanao massacre

COMMENTARY

Allen Mariano

Thanksgiving

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

A questioning woman

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Christmas remains the same

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo



Comelec doing nothing to combat vote-buying

LETTERS

People of Pampanga will decide if GMA deserves seat in House

Forgotten bill on SSS condonation



DepED

INVITATION TO BID

Across the NATION

US, Aussie projects still suspended

Fear of worker safety lingers even without ML

By Jerry E. Esplanada

DESPITE THE LIFTING of martial law in Maguindanao, both US and Australian development projects in the so-called "Republic of Ampatuan" remain indefinitely suspended.

Waiting stance

Normal reaction

Other projects go



LITTLE Kibungan in Benguet is one of the areas devastated by successive storms that slammed into the country.

Typhoon damage repair like boxing, says Teves

RP role small in greenhouse gas emissions, says Teodoro

Among Ed, Satur, Randy say Gloria campaigning early

GMA, Kenney get 'smooth landing' on new Sulu runway

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Old tools for new climate problems

By Vincent Cabreza
Bontoc, Mt. Province

THE ANCIENT STONE WALLING TECHNIQUES of Cordillerans helped stabilize the rice terraces of Mt. Province for centuries.



First alerts

> 'In the end, the real solution is still to rebuild our forests'

Ancient tools

Old ways

QC judge: What is glory without family

Gunmen kidnap 4 persons, ambush troops in Maguindanao

A first in QC

Habeas corpus hearing

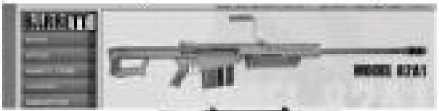
Groups out to harm accused

NBI security for witness

WHAT WENT BEFORE

'Rooted in corruption'

Arms dealer: I thought I was working with the good guys







GUNS BUT NO ROSES. Former PNP Director General Avelino Lomibao (right) checks out guns similar to the firearms pictured at left, with Cris Aquino, president of the Advanced Weapon Systems Trading, in this photo taken in January 2006.

Buyers gov't allies

Key to transaction

How system works

Missing rifles

Last deal

Ampatuans paid cash

Marriage is good for you, just don't end it, says study

Unique study

Downside

Editor Teddyvic E. Melendres
Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Ochoa

SPORTS

RP bets grab 5 golds, stay 6th

Marathon double sparks another productive day at SEA Games

By Roy Luarca



Chan on target, at last

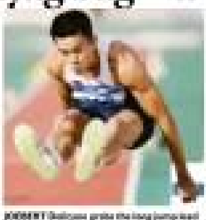
By Roy Luarca

Yap falls short

RARE PINOY SWEEP

B'vista, Banayag bag marathon golds

By Roy Luarca





SEA GAMES MEDAL TALLY

Breakthrough win for gritty Quillotes

By Roy Luarca

Veteran Tac out to end shooters' drought

By Roy Luarca

2 more RP boxers gain men's finals

Pinoy coaches cry robbery



Tankers well off target but still unbowed

Django, the fighter, has never felt this bad

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad



Time to junk this nasty sport of finger-pointing

ONE GAME AT A TIME

Ser Sarmenta





Air force Rider Rider Crowned Champions of Inaugural UFL-LBC Cup

RP Open golf starts; Juvic seeing action



Howard bucks hard fouls in Magic win



MAGIC center Dwight Howard puts up a hook shot against Indiana counterpart Roy Hibbert.

'Underground' football league finds its niche

Smart backs 'Bakbakan'

Two squads share NBTC hoops lead



Hot Aces, Kings face tough foes

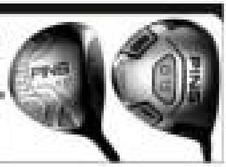
By Cedelf P. Tupas



Orduna bags Karter of the Year plum

ORDUNA

PBA giveaways: Cellphones, cash



Strange reports of deaths

IN HUDDLE

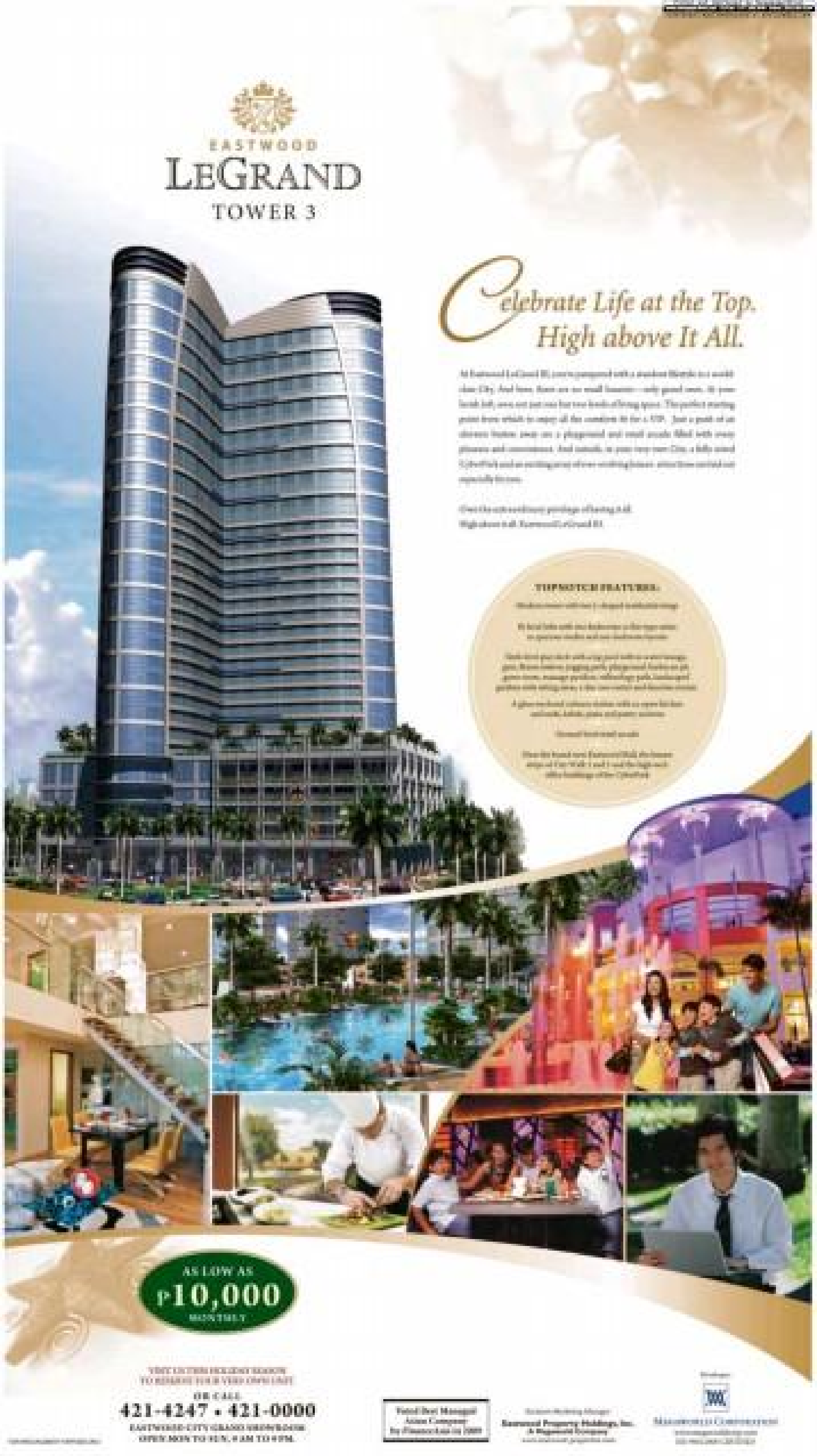


Beth Celis

'Rambulan' resumes

SPORTSWATCH

Christmas derby slated


EASTWOOD
LEGRAND
TOWER 3
Celebrate Life at the Top.
High above It All.
AS LOW AS
₱10,000
MONTHLY
OR CALL
421-4247 • 421-0000

A plus METRO



19 get life for Chinoy's kidnap-slay

A QUEZON CITY COURT YESTERDAY SENTENCED to life imprisonment 19 people, including two women, for conspiring to kidnap and kill a Chinese-Filipino soft drink executive in 2003.



Backhoe prepares school for demolition

1,000 PNCC workers to receive separation pay

[illegible]



STREAKING FOR A CAUSE

[illegible]

Man killed as car explodes in front of Taguig condo

[illegible]

Backhoe prepares school ...

[illegible]

19 get life ...

[illegible]

MetroBriefs

German found dead

[illegible]

Alleged robber killed

[illegible]

Driver, helper nabbed

[illegible]

QC cop linked to colleague's slay arrested

[illegible]



THIS undated handout photo received on Dec. 15 from Melbourne's Museum Victoria shows an octopus wrapped around the shell of a coconut and using it to protect itself on the seabed floor. AFP

Coconut-carrying octopus stuns scientists

SYDNEY—THE OCTOPUS may be smarter than you think. Australian scientists on Tuesday revealed [illegible]

Italians criticize, praise attack on controversial PM

ROME—EVEN HOSPITALIZED and in pain, Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi can still polarize Italians. [illegible]

8 dead in Kabul suicide bombing

KABUL—A SUICIDE CAR BOMBER STRUCK a heavily guarded neighborhood on Tuesday [illegible]

Car bombs kill 5, hurt 16 in Baghdad

BAGHDAD—CAR BOMBS ripped through downtown Baghdad early Tuesday [illegible]

WorldBriefs

Grammy winner sang at drug party

[illegible]

Japan delays decision on US base

[illegible]

Iran to try 3 Americans

[illegible]

Shootouts in Mexico kill 13

[illegible]

The WORLD

Negotiators race to forge climate deal

COPENHAGEN—WORLD LEADERS RAISED THE pressure for results at the United Nations climate summit on Tuesday, amid procedural wrangles, finger-pointing and defense of national interests.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, his Australian counterpart Kevin Rudd and Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva were among the heavyweights expected in the Danish capital where climate ministers have struggled to make progress.

"Time is running out ... There is no time for posturing or blaming," Ban told reporters in New York before flying to the Danish capital.

"If everything is left to leaders to resolve at the last minute, we risk having a weak deal or no deal at all. And this would be a failure of potentially catastrophic consequences."

The summit, which reaches its climax on Friday when 120 heads of state [illegible] in the Danish capital, is billed as one of the most important gatherings of the post-World War II era.

Its goal is to agree an outline deal of national pledges to curb carbon emissions and set up a mechanism to provide billions of dollars in help for poor countries in the firing line of climate change.

If the surge in greenhouse gas emissions is unchecked, Earth will be on course within the next decade for warming that will inflict drought, flood, storms and rising sea levels on tens of millions of people, say scientists.

But deep divisions remain over how to split the tab.

Developing countries are demanding their rich counterparts slash their carbon emissions by at least 40 percent 2020 compared with 1990 levels.

Emerging economic giants such as China and India say they are willing to promise voluntary measures to slow their forecast surge in emissions but are under pressure to be more ambitious and be subject to international scrutiny.

United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton acknowledged the West was expected to take the lead, but said all countries had to play their part. *AFP*

BUSINESS

Remittances hit record $1.5B in October

San Miguel acquires Aussie firm



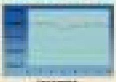
SAN MIGUEL/B2

Highest monthly figure brings 10-month total to $14.3B

REMITTANCES SENT TO THE PHILIPPINES reached $1.5 billion in October, the highest monthly record to date, due to the sustained global demand for Filipino labor and moves of OFWs to send more money to families affected by the recent calamities.

REMITTANCES/B2

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



Century Properties inks ₱6-B venture with Columbian Motors

Middle-income housing project in Parañaque

Stocks inch up in lackluster trading

DISCLOSURES

Philippine Stock Exchange

Currencies

ADB lowers growth forecast for RP to 1% this year

By Michelle V. Remo

THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK HAS slashed, anew its economic growth forecast for the Philippines, citing the impact of the two recent calamities that hit Luzon on spending and agricultural output.

ADB now expects the Philippines to grow 1 percent this year, lower than its earlier forecast of 2.6 percent released in September and the 2.5 percent made in March.

Jong-Wha Lee, chief economist at the ADB, said in a briefing yesterday that its latest growth projection for the Philippines was still better than its outlook for other countries. He said the Philippines was one of the few economies that avoided a recession this year partly because of effective monetary policy.

"The reduction of the growth forecast to 1 percent may be disappointing but it is still better than for other countries," Lee said.

ADB expects Malaysia and Thailand to contract by 2.5 and 3 percent, respectively, this year. Meanwhile, it expects Indonesia and Vietnam to grow at faster rates of 4.3 and 5 percent.

The Philippines and other economies grew at a good growth this year as those that are less dependent on exports to the United States and other industrialized countries whose economies have slumped and hit the global turmoil.

Lee said the Philippines would have likely grown a bit faster this year were it not for the recent calamities.

"The recent typhoons may have some impact on output," he added.

He was referring to tropical storm "Ondoy" that struck Metro Manila and nearby provinces in late September and Typhoon "Pepeng" that hit northern Luzon in early October. The calamities were estimated to have resulted in about 1,100 deaths and, according to estimates by the World Bank, will require as much as P200 billion in spending for reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts.

The ADB, however, has maintained its growth forecast for the Philippines for 2010 at 3.5 percent.

Abu Dhabi's $10-B bailout of Dubai calms fears

With aid package, Emirate buys time it desperately needs

Obama tells banks: Ease lending to businesses



Budget group says US deficit curbs needed

East Asia economies expected to recover at faster pace

Japan economy very severe, says PM



PURE GOLD

Asian stock markets mixed ahead of Federal Reserve meet

Backhoe shakedown

BIZ BUZZ

Oct. unemployment rate up to 7.1%

2.71M Filipinos jobless



SM RESIDENCES' NEWEST PROJECTS

APC, Steel Asia ink supply deal

Four firms vie for Reed Bank, Kalayaan Island survey contract

San Miguel acquires Aussie firm

Taiwan OKs funding for radar systems study

Remittances hit record $1.5B ...

Globe ends contract with S&P

GLOBE TELECOM INC. yesterday announced that it had no plans to tap international debt markets, given the availability of cheap funds from local and foreign banks.

As a result, the company said in a disclosure that it had ended its credit rating review agreement with global debt watcher Standard & Poor's (S&P).

"Given the liquidity of the domestic debt markets and availability of competitively priced funds from domestic and foreign banks and export agencies, Globe has no immediate plans to raise funds through the international capital markets," the company said in its disclosure.

Before withdrawing the deal, Globe received a BB+ corporate credit rating from S&P, which is below investment grade. The rating firm's outlook for the company was stable, meaning there is little chance of either an upgrade or a downgrade in the next 12 months.

"Globe currently has a PRS Aaa rating from local credit rating agency PhilRatings. This is the highest possible rating, signifying the smallest degree of investment risk," the company said.

Globe earlier said it would set a budget of $500 million for next year's expenses, roughly the same amount the company expects to spend this year.

The company's profits rose 12 percent to P9.9 billion at the end of the third quarter of the year, following strong growth in its broadband Internet business.

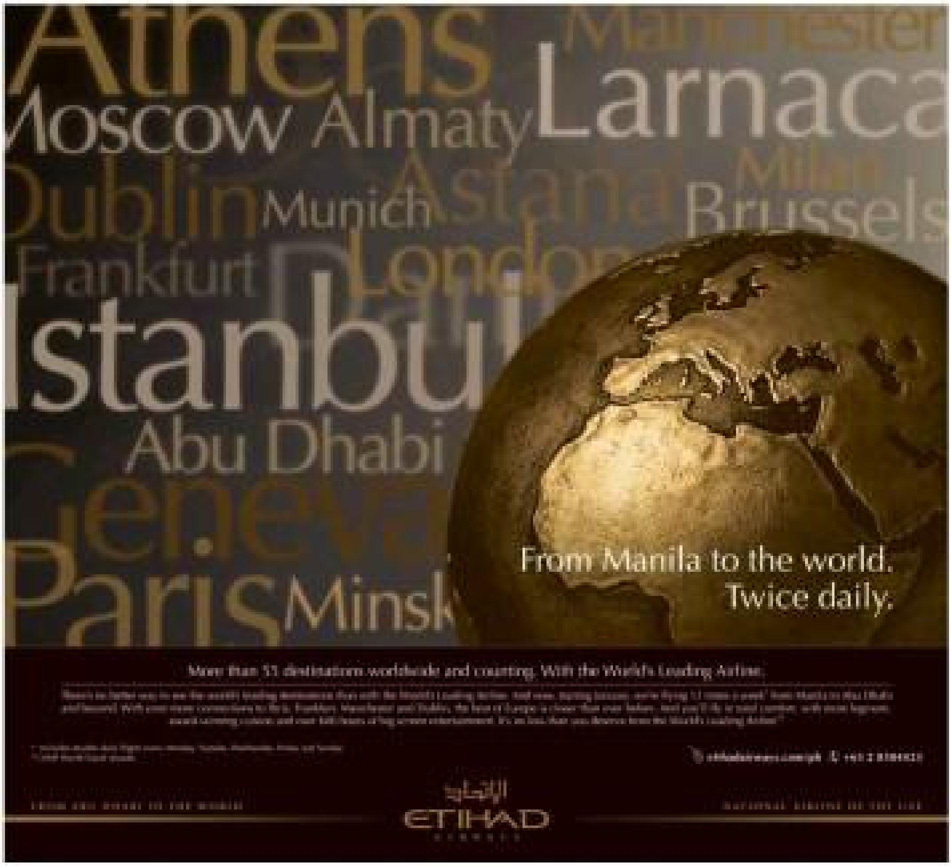
Globe shares closed 33 points lower to P935 each on Tuesday. Paolo G. Montecillo

Nu Skin's Christmas Party for the Kids at Philippine General Hospital

By Rikka Fortuna



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MOTORING

Editor Jong R. Amaro

Pinoy touch for 'Chedeng'

Wini Camacho lives the dream of designing a Mercedes Benz

By Tessa R. Salazar

THE WHEELS OF FORTUNE NOW FAvor [illegible] "Wini" Camacho.

Twelve years ago, as a struggling transportation designer in Mercedes Benz in Irvine, California, luck was farthest from his mind. Driving himself to the office in a beat-up Mazda 626 he got for $2500 from a used car shop (with take-it-or-leave-it duct tape on the AC vent), Wini's day included, apart from meeting work deadlines, planning on where to get his next budget meal.

Twelve years and 5,000 kilometers later, Wini now resides in Germany and drives his own Mercedes Benz 180 Kompressor C-Class. Oh, and yes, lest we forget to mention: He works for Mercedes Benz, and would have most likely designed the very car he was driving.

One thing's for sure: 40-year-old Wini, an industrial design graduate (cum laude) of the University of Santo Tomas, designed the look of one of the very symbol of opulence of the three-pointed star: the Mercedes Benz E-Class. It's an achievement only a senior exterior auto designer for production cars at Mercedes Benz Design (part of Daimler AG) HQ in Sindelfingen, Germany, can claim. What's more, this senior auto designer is a proud Pinoy—the only Filipino designer at the company's German headquarters.

Inquirer Motoring was able to squeeze in some quality phone and e-mail time in between Wini's busy schedule. We found out that Wini was, indeed, a 'global Pinoy': his extensive work and study experience spanning at least three continents.

Living the dream

He recalls that after working as an industrial/graphic designer in several companies in the Philippines and in Hong Kong, he then decided to pursue a degree in BS Transportation Design at the Art Center College of Design in Vevey, Switzerland, in 1995 and 1996 and finished his BS Transportation Design (with honors) at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California, in 1998.

From there, he started his career as the transportation designer of the Mercedes Benz Advanced Design North America in Irvine, California. On that same year, he was hired as senior transportation

PINOY B2-4



CAMACHO at work with his Wacom Cintiq digital tablet where he does all his sketching and renderings.



RP bet shows up rivals in battle of moto mechanics



Of judges...

Here comes the Sun, again

Ford rolls off all-new Fiesta



[illegible]



AUTO FILES

Of judges, dates and entry fees

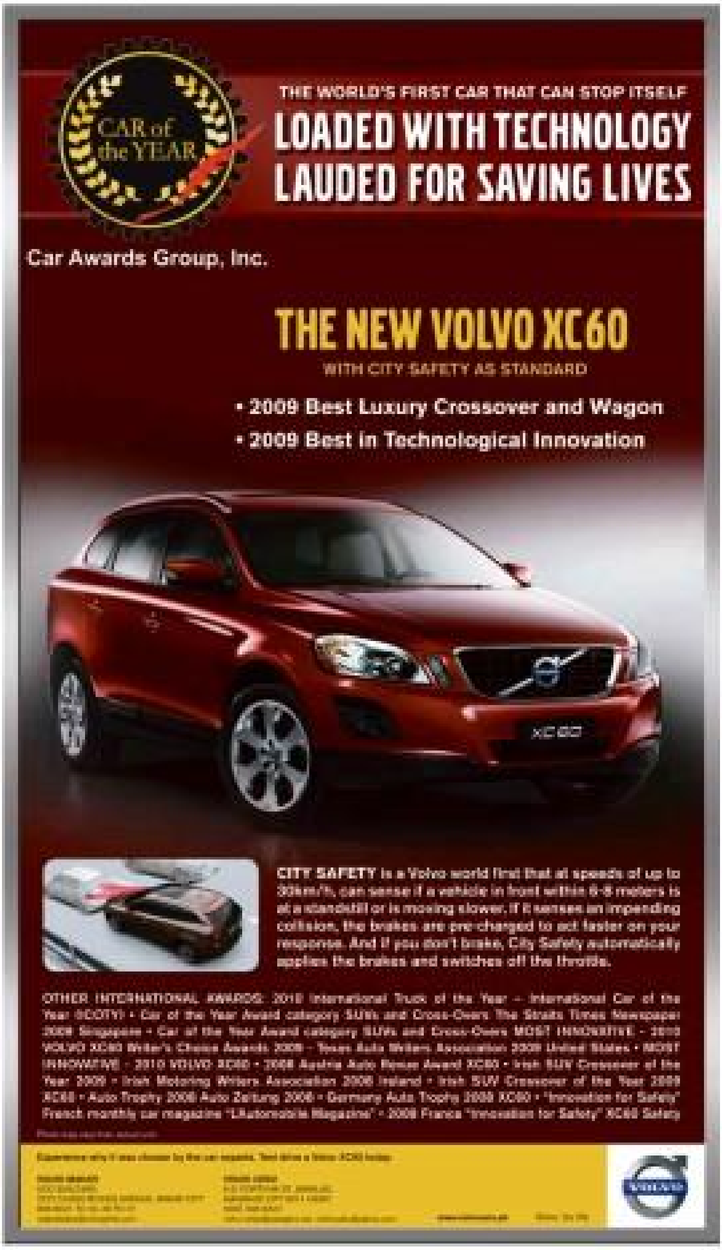
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Campi 'kakampi'

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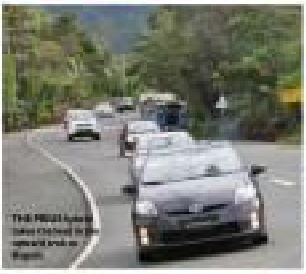
Oiler than thou

[illegible]



Toyota's victory parade











Mitsubishi chief reiterates call for incentives



Government help needed





All I want for Christmas is a coupe

ON THE ROAD

Aida Sevilla-Mendoza

[illegible]







My two front seats and other Christmas wishes



By Alvin Uy
Contributor

FOR THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS SEASON, this writer makes a wish list and offers some gift ideas for those who have loved ones who love anything and everything that is automotive.



Concept One PTCC Commemorative Racing Wheels

[illegible]

Cadra Series K176—a Mobile Entertainment System with a Back-up Plan

[illegible]



MOMO Wheels and Seats—Dressing Italian

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Motul's Radiator Spa Treatment

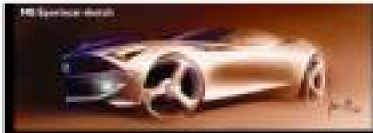
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Genesis Profile Series Amps—A Stereophile's Dream

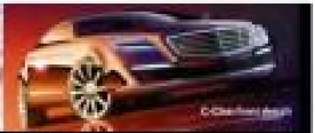


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MOTORING







Pinoy touch for 'Chedeng'







E-Class front sketch

'Easy to work with'

Designer among engineers

The 'winning' look

Chedeng obsessed

The mask collector



'Think only of the absolute'

LifeStyle

Nest-theme table centerpiece

Do-it-yourself



FILL bowls with raffia and add colorful birds.

A BIRD'S NEST is often a symbol of the home, a place where family members nurture each other.

It represents shelter, love and warmth. So for all the gatherings you will host in the coming days, create a bird's nest-theme tablescape.

Fill bowls with raffia and add colorful birds with



USE OSTRICH eggs, chicken eggs or duck eggs as Christmas ornaments.



BIRD'S nest-theme tablescape



AS A NIGHT light or portable light for brownouts, simply switch it on or off.

Safe, smokeless, 'green' candle

CANDLES CAN CREATE A wonderful atmosphere around the house, whether in the living room or dining room. There is nothing quite relaxing as dining in a restaurant or having cocktails in a bar by candlelight. Whatever it is, it sets the mood.

But for all its ambiance, warmth and beauty, there are also issues that come with candles. There is safety and the dangers of fire hazard in an open flame. They are extremely dangerous to use around children and pets, not to mention razing the house to the ground.

Candles also burn so there are smoke, drip and mess. There are also carbon and soot.

But, here's the good news. There's an alternative and it's re-

> The candles are flameless, operated by LED (Light Emitting Diode) bulbs which do not need replacement

al.

It's a real candle that flickers like a real one and has the authentic look and feel of a real candle. It's so real that one would be inclined to bend over and light a cigarette with it. This new candle, even if cool to the touch, has the soothing scent of vanilla.



BATTERY-OPERATED candle

Now that's substitute for decor, ambiance, restaurant and bar candlelight.

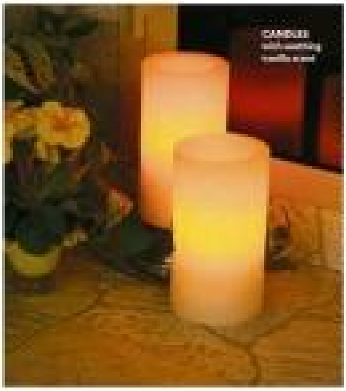
It can be used in the garden, pool, deck, patio and beach parties for it's windproof. A candle in the wind. As a night light or portable light for brownouts, simply switch it on and switch it off. It's convenient and a perfect gift any time of the year.

The candles are flameless, operated by light emitting diode (LED) bulbs which do not need replacement. They do not have a filament that burns out like an incandescent bulb, so they last more than 12 years or more.

With three good-quality AAA batteries, it can be used continuously anywhere from two weeks to months on end, depending on the number of hours it's left on. The technology that LED brings is proof enough that it is energy efficient.

It's a safe, smokeless, environment-friendly green product.

Call [illegible] or [illegible]; e-mail [illegible]@gmail.com.



CANDLES with soothing vanilla scent



SM Prime Holdings Inc. president Hans T. Sy, Shenzhen City Forlight Inc. engineer Ben, Simon Zhang, Chris Li, Bang Wu and Kao Kang

Mall's eco-friendly Globamaze lit up

AS A PREMIERE DESTINATION mall in the Asia-Pacific region, the SM Mall of Asia has been on the forefront of many innovations: the country's first Imax theater, the country's only Olympic size ice skating rink, more than 750 shops and restaurants and a spectacular view of scenic Manila Bay.

Just in time for the holidays, it recently lit up the iconic globe that has come to symbolize the mall. And Globamaze, as this new innovation is called, will forever change the landscape of outdoor media and entertainment.

Located at the rotunda at the southernmost tip of Asia, the 20-diameter steel-framed globe has welcomed customers to the SM Mall of Asia since it opened in 2006. And today with Globamaze, it is one of the most spectacular LED displays in the region.

Globamaze is the first and only full global video display in Asia with its high resolution and full display graphics made possible by the LED's 20,000 pieces of point lights. This cutting-edge LED technology is among other things, weatherproof, has superior brightness and long life.

It is eco-friendly with its low power consumption. It is nevertheless, a visual feast, with its effects and pyrotechnics. The light emission in a single wavelength of this technology achieves substantially greater color saturation than conventional lighting. That means more brilliant and radiant colors for electric light advertising.

The SM Mall of Asia's Globamaze is a feat of engineering and the product of the latest technology and imagination.



IT'S WEATHER-PROOF, bright and long lasting.



SPECTACULAR video displays on a giant electronic orb.



GLOBAMAZE's globe video display, the first in Asia, offers high resolution and full display graphics.

Buy Aranaz bags and help Payatas' indigent women

IN THE SPIRIT OF GIVING this festive season, use MasterCard to purchase bags from the Aranaz 2009 Fall Holiday Collection.

The ultra chic Aranaz Fall Holiday Collection features eco-friendly bags creatively designed by renowned bag designer Amina Aranaz-Alunan and meticulously woven by the women of Payatas for Rags2Riches, Inc.

Rags2Riches Inc., a social business enterprise that creates a diverse range of eco-ethical products, utilizing scrap cloth discarded by garment factories around the Philippines, forges partnerships with renowned fashion designers, runway models, fashion directors, marketers, and entrepreneurs as it aims to establish a pattern-changing, scalable, and sustainable business that values and invests in marginalized people and communities.

In recognition of Rags2Riches' cause, MasterCard supports the Aranaz Fall Holiday collection as part of the MasterCard Purchase with Purpose corporate responsibility platform.

For every bag purchased with a MasterCard at Aranaz stores in Power Plant Mall and Greenbelt 5 until Dec. 31, MasterCard will donate US$1 to the Rags2Riches Enterprise Activation Program, a community project benefiting the indigent women of Payatas.

Nest-theme table centerpiece

From page C1

or Christmas tree ornaments, ostrich eggs or chicken eggs or duck eggs you can buy from the grocery.

Arrange them on the dining table or spread them around your home as festive decorations.

[illegible]



ARRANGE nest on dining table.

Gift bags and boxes filled with healthy treats

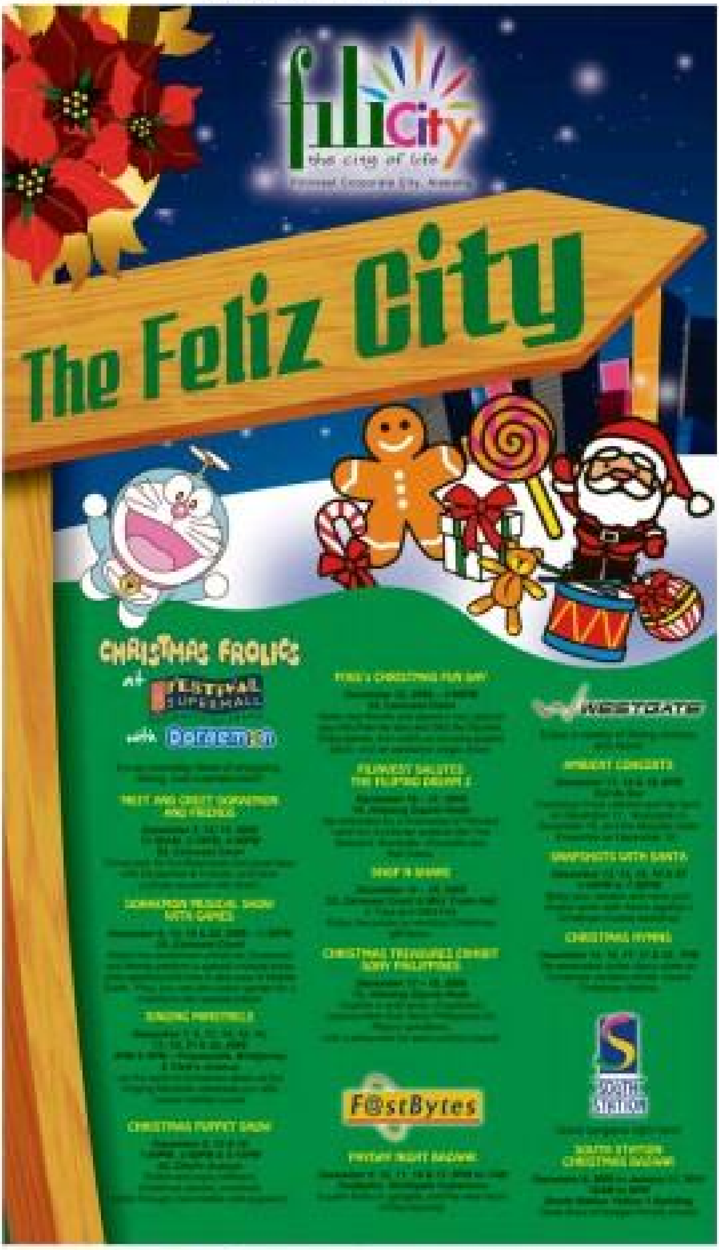
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HEALTHY Options gift box

Tips for shopping convenience

[illegible]






At Manhattan Heights,
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in a studio or suite.
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LIFESTYLE Parenting

Couture for children





[illegible] with daughters [illegible] and wife [illegible]



NEWLYWEDS [illegible] Delgado with [illegible]



PENINSULA MANILA general manager Jonathan Crook, [illegible], Catherine [illegible] and Bella Crook



TATLER publisher Irene Martel Francisco and Asia Tatler CEO Barrie Goodridge (right) with 2009 Tatler grand ball awardees [illegible]



[illegible]



[illegible]



[illegible]

Philippine Tatler Ball raises over ₱4 M for charity

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache



Photos by [illegible]

[illegible]



MAKATI Shangri-La's [illegible]



TATLER family Mia Borromeo, editor-in-chief Anton San Diego and publisher Irene Francisco



MACKY [illegible]



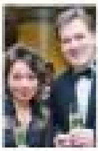
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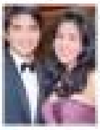
ANTHONY [illegible]



[illegible]



RITA Goodridge and husband



TOP cardiologist [illegible]



[illegible]



[illegible]



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Couture for children



Hello Kitty—now an online game



Learning center nurtures kids' creativity

AT JULIA GABRIEL CENTER FOR Learning (JGCL), school means a happy environment where learning is fun and stimulating even for kids as early as infancy.



Nu Skin Opens Alabang Office







New online community for moms and moms-to-be

THE FOOD INDUSTRY AND THE QUESO DE BOLA

LifeStyle



How relationships helped me survive the storm

THE RAINS HAVE STOPPED. Floodwaters have receded in some parts of Marikina, including where I live—Provident Village. Electricity is back and the piles of garbage in the streets are gone but the memory lingers. On the outside everything seems normal.

Experience green living at Manhattan Heights

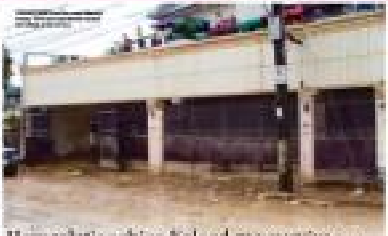






Why the need for a prefix?

The Consumer



How relationships helped me survive . . .



Rubber boots for calamities and leisure as well

How to make kids eat a healthy, balanced diet







SM Megamall is the Philippine Retailers Association's Shopping Center Of The Year

SM Megamall recently received the **Philippine Retailers Association's Shopping Center of the Year Award** during its 2009 Outstanding Filipino Retailers and Shopping Center of the Year Night held recently at the Crowne Plaza in Ortigas Center.

This is the fourth time that an SM Supermall has been cited by the PRA since it launched the Shopping Center of the Year Award in 2002. SM City Baguio was earlier cited in 2005, and the SM Mall of Asia in 2007 and 2008.

Located along EDSA and Julia Vargas in the Ortigas Center, the **SM Megamall** created a lot of excitement when it was launched in 1991. At 330,000 square meters, it was not only mega in size but big in cutting edge concepts like the clustering of tenants; the Artwalk and the Art Center, which brought art to the people through its mall galleries; and the Mega Trade Hall. Later on, it opened a Cyberzone on the Fourth Level, the Mega Strip, Al Fresco dining until midnight along Julia Vargas; and the Chapel of the Eucharistic Lord on the Fifth Level.

Since that time, the mall has undergone several renovations, making it more mega and more exciting. Last August, it launched the **Mega Atrium**, a niche mall within a mall with upscale stores and specialty restaurants for the upmarket crowd. It also features a grand Chapel of the Eucharistic Lord that also has an Adoration Chapel.

More recently, it opened a state-of-the-art Event Center on the Lower Ground Floor, which is designed for large concerts, exhibits, and performances. Able to accommodate 1,200 people, it is envisioned to be a premiere events center in the Ortigas area.

It has also been on the forefront of environmental projects with sustainable features like the Sewage Treatment Plant and energy saving measures, as well as consumer activities like segregated waste bins, the Recycling Market Fair where one can exchange trash for cash; the conferences like the Green Retail Agenda, and the Green Film Festival. Spearheading these activities in other SM Malls resulted in the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Excellence in Economy and Environment Award for SM Prime Holdings last year.















MEGAMALL

Endless shopping. Endless Discoveries.

LIFESTYLE Home&Entertaining



BE INSPIRED, NOT LITERAL.

7 ways to decorate with ethnic prints

To create a scintillating environment with prints, think of the room as a large canvas

WITH A FINE ARTS degree from Pratt and a knowledge of Chinese block printing, John Robshaw traveled to India to look for art supplies. He immersed himself in fabric-making traditions such as dyeing, printing and weaving. He was fascinated with woodblock printing wherein a block is applied to wet clay then onto a fabric, and the exquisite painting techniques applied to textiles. He then collaborated with artisans from Gujarat and Rajasthan to create a line under his name that offers beddings, linens and fabrics.

Today, John Robshaw Textiles is well-known among decorators for his vivid ethnic prints. He made the Western world appreciate the value of hand-crafted work



REPEAT PRINTS.



MIX TEXTURES.





DON'T BE AFRAID TO MAKE SMALL MISTAKES. Instead of getting the usual neutral colors, be adventurous in colors and prints. Get patterns with odd shapes or uneven pieces. Bright pieces perk up a lounging area.



LAYER. Mixing colors, cultural influences and patterns can work with the right layering. The bedding offers so many angles from the side, top and front, and also a vast surface, so it makes an impact in the room. Layer with sheets, quilts, throws and shams—dhurrie rolls.

7 ways to decorate with ethnic prints

From page F1



and beauty of imperfections.

For the layouts, we styled the residence of Bobby King to show how to blend various prints in the same room. To create a unified-looking environment with prints, think of the room as a large canvas. Select the dominant color and subordinates to anchor the palette. Then keep the same scale and proportion throughout the space to achieve an eye-pleasing celebration of color and design.

For details on John Robshaw textiles, contact Focus Global Showroom, Pioneer corner Reliance; tel. 6346587, (Ofie Arnedo) or Aya Torres.

GO METALLIC TO EMPHASIZE STATEMENT PIECES. The metallic look on fabric adds glamour and sophistication. "Metallics catch my eye at every turn, and they create a stunning contrast to the saturated ground coloring," says Robshaw. Yes, there is also beauty in the imperfection of patchy gold stamping prints on these pillows. This gets to appreciate the value of artisan hands over mass production. "People notice when you have something unique, something different, in your home," adds Robshaw.





BE WHIMSICAL. Welcome guests with lively animal prints on throw pillows. These hand-painted ... were painstakingly done in India.

Time to say no to plastic



But do our leaders have the political will to implement such a policy in this country?

Sorting garbage

Fuzzy demarcation

'Green' bags

Up to 60 percent off on fine furniture













Tranquil, scenic living in Laguna







Trunk Show set today

UST Arts and Letters batch '85 to hold homecoming

Robinsons' Christmas celebration

Parañaque observes World AIDS Day



HOLIDAY FREEBIES

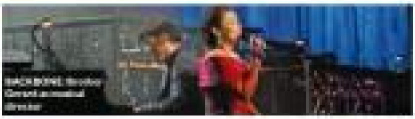
ENTERTAINMENT

TJ Trinidad

WISH LIST



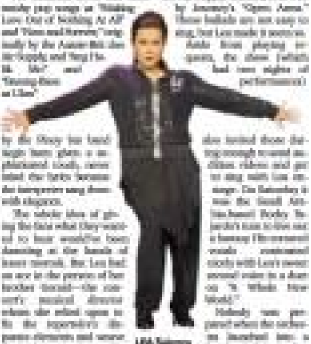


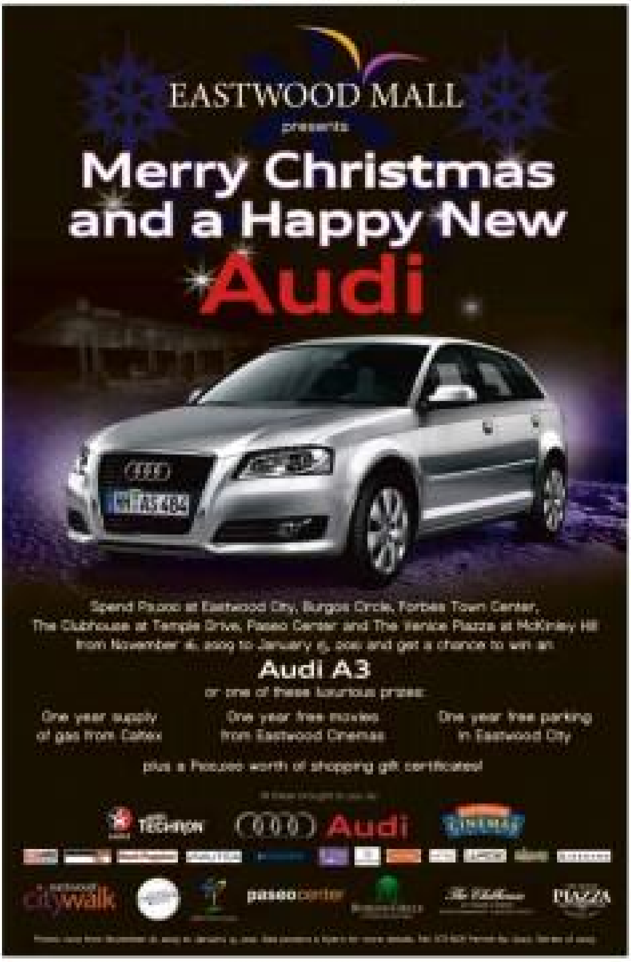


The international singer gives a touch of class to mushy pop tunes

No such thing as a bad song

By Pocholo Concepcion
Photos by Lyn Rillon

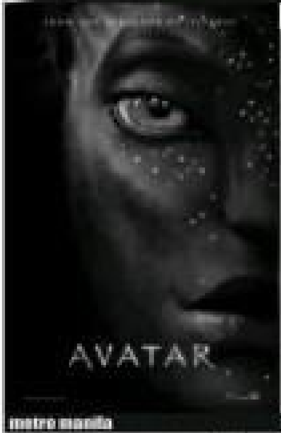

LEA Salonga



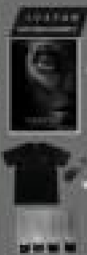


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SM MALL OF ASIA — SM NORTH EDSA

TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON

PODIUM

luzon

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MOVIEWORLD

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

GALLERIA
1 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
2 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
3 NINJA ASSASSIN
4 2012
5 PLANET 51
6 A CHRISTMAS CAROL (DIGITAL 3D)
7 BAD LIEUTENANT
8 [illegible]
9 [illegible]
10 CAMPUS CRUSH

MANILA
1 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
2 BAD LIEUTENANT
3 NINJA ASSASSIN
4 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
5 PREDATOR
6 CAMPUS CRUSH
7 2012

METRO EAST
1 PREDATOR
2 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
3 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
4 PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
5 NINJA ASSASSIN
6 2012
7 PLANET 51
8 A CHRISTMAS CAROL

NOVALICHES
1 NINJA ASSASSIN
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4 PREDATOR

FORUM ROBINSONS
1 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
2 NINJA ASSASSIN
3 PREDATOR
4 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON

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STA. ROSA
1 2012
2 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
3 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
4 AMELIA

LIPA
1 NINJA ASSASSIN
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3 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
4 ASTROBOY

DASMARIÑAS
1 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
2 2012
3 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
4 ASTROBOY

STARMILLS
1 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
2 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
3 2012
4 NINJA ASSASSIN
5 PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
6 JENNIFER'S BODY

IMUS
1 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
2 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
3 PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
4 ASTROBOY

ANGELES
1 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
2 ALL ABOUT STEVE
3 NINJA ASSASSIN
4 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON

TACLOBAN
1 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
2 NINJA ASSASSIN
3 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON

DUMAGUETE
1 PLANET 51
2 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
3 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON

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2 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
3 A CHRISTMAS CAROL
4 NINJA ASSASSIN
5 2012
6 JENNIFER'S BODY

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1 NINJA ASSASSIN
2 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
3 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
4 ALL ABOUT STEVE
5 PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
6 2012

GENSAN
1 INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS
2 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
3 2012
4 500 DAYS OF SUMMER

ILOCOS NORTE (NOW OPEN!)
1 2012
2 NINJA ASSASSIN
3 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON



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at all MOVIEWORLD branches

Celebs reveal their favorite gifts

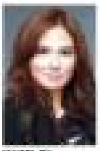
Dolly Wood



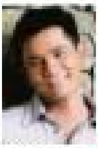
Dolly Anne Carvajal



GABBY Concepcion



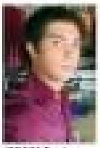
ISABEL Oli



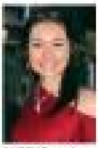
OGIE Alcasid



EUGENE Domingo

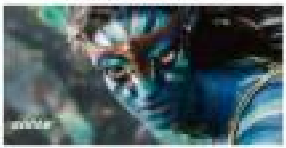


JOROSS Gamboa



PHOEMELA Baranda

Opening This Week



Club Chaser

Avatar

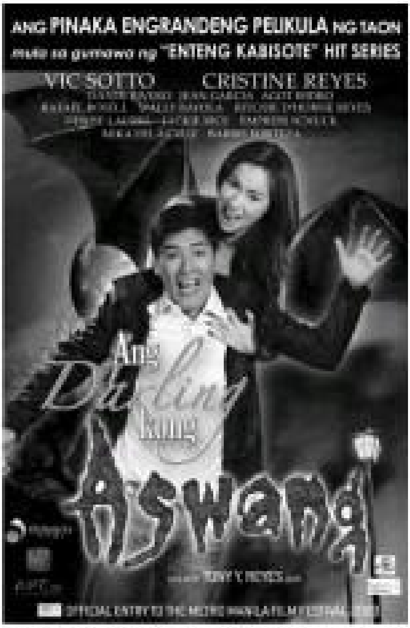


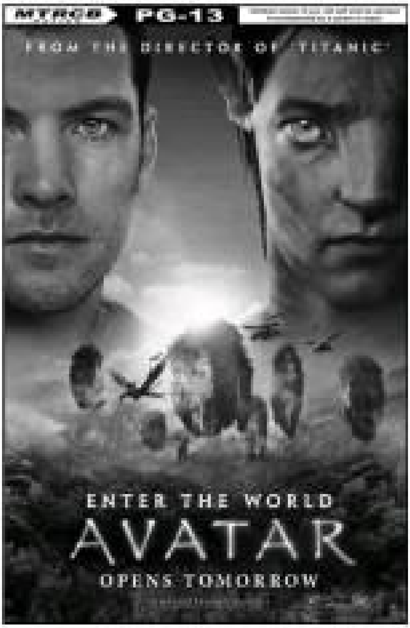


Ai-Ai de las Alas in much "Annie" costume



OPM medley duet with Richard Poon





No such thing . . .

From page G1

reggae dance moves with six ladies from the hip-hop group Philippine All Stars.

Out of place

If there was anything that looked sorely out of place, it was the spot performance of the whole All Stars crew which was loud and jarring.

Thankfully the show regained its footing. Lea conveyed playful...ing ...nelism to Michael Jackson's "Giant Tree Arena" displayed ... in a Pinoy rock medley ... (...) after a duet with Jon ... in "The Beauty ...man."

Her voice was ... at one point in an OPM medley with Richard Poon.

She was typically splendid in the ...cal theater segment, but, again, nothing prepared the audience when she engaged Ai-Ai de las Alas in a ... — the latter mocking Lea's ... English ... — and both found their match in ...

But Lea's rendition wasn't grating to the ears. Her mastery of style and technique has made the international star capable of singing anything.

Actress' . . .

From page G6

... ang ...ming." (That's right, Mama ...)

■ ... asked if rumors of a romance between Joey Marquez and ... were true:

"... ..."

■ Annabelle Rama on the Department of Justice ... a libel case against an ... news website that reported an alleged ... involving son Richard Gutierrez and Michael Flores:

"..."

■ Jaclyn ... talking with ... about her ... with ...:

"..."

■ ... on ... with ... regarding the ...:

"..."

(Outtakes, The Buzz, ...)

GARFIELD

By JIM DAVIS



A. LIPIN

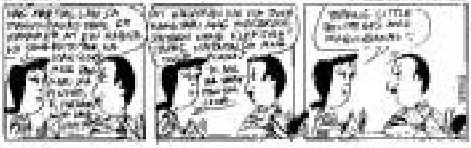


PUGAD BABOY



DICK TRACY





JAMES BOND

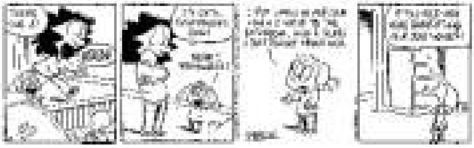


DIVINE COMEDY



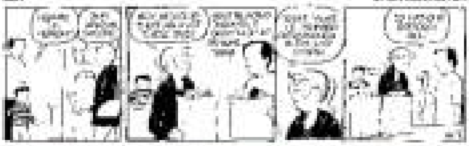
BABY BLUES

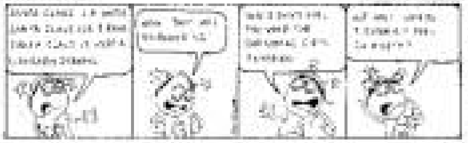
By JERRY SCOTT



TULDOK





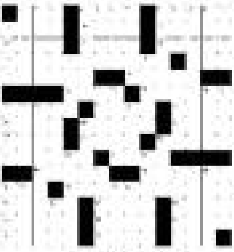


KIKO MACHINE

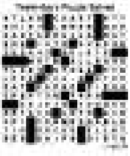


HOROSCOPE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved



CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

					8	2	7	
				4				
	7	4	3		2	9	8	
4	8			2			9	7
7								8
3								5
1								2
	5						1	
		7	9	1	6	5		

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

Actress' tantrums leave husband in tears

RUSHES

[illegible]

Reunited

[illegible]

Cruel lover

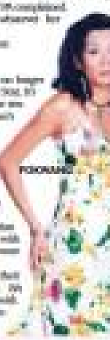
[illegible]

Blame drugs

[illegible]

'Frenemies' forever

[illegible]



Top of the talk shows

[illegible]

ROTESSE 13 ►